THE MINSTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976 has been repealed by Parliament in 1999. It is for the State Governments to take appropriate steps to adopt Repeal Act in respective State. Eight States have already adopted the Repeal Act. The Central Government has been impressing upon the State Governments to implement certain urban reforms including repeal of the Urban Land Ceiling Act by incentivising them through Urban Reforms Incentive Fund (URIF).

Funds allocated to NER under SJSRY

2778. SHRI T. R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial allocation made by Government under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana for the States of the North-Eastern Region during the last three years;

(b) whether the funds allotted for NER during this period have been utilised;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the achievements made in this respect; and

(e) the details of the targets fixed under the scheme for NER during the year 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The funds allocated/released to the North-Eastern States including Sikkim during the last three years are as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

2002-2003		2003-04		2004-05	
Allocation	Released	Alloaction	Released	Allocation	Released
1016.04	319.44	1050.00	1050.00	1030.00	1130.00

(b) and (c) During the year 2002-03, out of the total allocation of Rs. 1016.04 lakhs, funds could not be released fully to the North Eastern

Region including Sikkim due to non receipt of Utilisation Certificates and non release of matching State Share for the early release under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana by the concerned States.

(d) Cumulatively since the inception of the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) *i.e.* 1-12-1997, 13444 micro enterprises have been set up, 22547 urban poor have been provided training and 36.99 lakhs number of mandays have been created under Urban Wage Employment Programme in the North-Eastern Region including Sikkim.

(e) During the year 2005-06, out of the total Budget Allocation of Rs. 160.00 Crore for the implementation of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Rs. 16.00 Crore have been earmarked for the North-Eastern Region including Sikkim.

Task Force on employment opportunities

2779. SHRI R. K. ANAND:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many task forces on employment opportunities had been set up during the last five years and the expenses incurred thereon;

(b) how many recommendations of these task forces have been implemented and what additional employment have been generated in organized and unorganized sectors during the last one year; and

(c) the progress made on Employment Guarantee Scheme, designed to protect interests of the poor as announced in the National Common Minimum Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) One Task Force and One Special Group have been set up on Employment Opportunities during the last five years. These are (i) Task Force on Employment Opportunities under the Chairmanship of Sh. M.S. Ahluwalia,